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Diwan Bahadur R. N. Arogyaswami Mudaliyar :—" Is it any use coming to the House for sanction of any deviation after the Government take the Secretary of State's sanction for the deviation ? "

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" That is possible."

Recommendations of the Mettur deputation.

* 126 *Q.*—Mr. S Satyamurti : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have considered the report of the Mettur deputation ;

(*b*) what recommendations of the deputation the Government have accepted or propose to accept ; and

(*c*) the reasons for rejecting the recommendations, if any, of the deputation ?

A.—The report is at present under the consideration of the Government.

Land Revenue

Yield of staple food crops in Ganjam, Kistna and other districts.

* 127 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state in terms of annas the yield of the staple food crops which represent—

(*a*) the bumper ;

(*b*) the normal ;

(*c*) the fair ; and

(*d*) the poor outturn for the districts of Ganjam, Kistna, Kurnool, Bellary, Tanjore, Malabar and South Kanara, respectively ?

A.—The yield in terms of annas is given below :—

bumper	...	...	13—16 annas.
normal	...	...	12 ,,
fair	...	...	8—11 ,,
poor	...	...	4—7 ,,
bad	...	...	0—3 ,,

This notation is common to all the districts. There is no separate notation for the districts mentioned by the hon. Member.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—Is the hon. the Revenue Member aware that the impression in the minds of many village officers is that the normal crop is 13—16 annas, while it is the bumper that is 13—16 annas."

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" I do not admit the inference the hon. Member draws."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I know what steps the Government have taken to periodically acquaint the village officers about these classifications of crops ? "

The hon. Sir Norman Marjoribanks :—" The hon. Member is probably aware that every year instructions relating to them are impressed upon the village officers at jamabandi."

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Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR :—" Is it published in the village sheet once in a year ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I should say not, because they are instructions for the guidance of village officers only, not the public."

Preparation of the land revenue budget.

* 128 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the proposals under the consideration of the Government for improving the present method of preparing the land revenue budget and watching expenditure ?

A.—The hon. Member is apparently referring to the account published of the principal subjects discussed at the recent Collectors' conference at Ootacamund.

Suggestions were made by those present on the following topics and notes were taken by the Members of the Board of Revenue present of those that seemed worth pursuing further. There is no specific proposal at present under the consideration of the Government :—

(1) delays in the preparation of the budget,
(2) irregularities in the classification of accounts,
(3) expenditure in excess of the sanctioned appropriation, and
(4) failure to surrender savings in time.

Preparation of the record of rights in this Presidency.

* 129 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state what action Government propose to take for preparing a record of rights in this Presidency in the light of the enactments relating to record of rights in force in the Bombay Presidency and the Mysore State ?

A.—No decision has yet been arrived at.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—" May I know why there is delay in this matter ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" If the hon. Member will recollect, Government communicated with the various parties in the House to ascertain their general views ; I believe so far, only one reply has been received."

Pounds

Better maintenance of village chavadis and cattle pounds.

* 130 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state the proposals under the consideration of the Government for the better maintenance of village chavadis and cattle pounds ?

A.—There are no such proposals under the consideration of the Government. The Government have issued instructions to the Board of Revenue to scrutinize past allotments for village chavadis and cattle pounds during the preparation of the next budget and to apply for larger funds for districts where there are indications that the Collectors can usefully spend more.